

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 20-24 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present Preliminary Supplemental Amendment. Claims 20-24 have been newly added to provide application to protection to which they are entitled without the introduction of any new matter.

Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.
Registration No. 40,440

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
EHK/RFC/jmp:fm

I:\ATTY\RFC\25\250132.SUPPPRELIM.DOC